

CLAIMS

1. A bandage comprising:
a strip having a facing surface and a back surface and defined by a pair of end portions and a central portion with the central portion sized to overly a wound;
an adhesive substantially covering only said facing surfaces of said end portions;
wherein at least said central portion of said strip is made of a material having a porosity of at least 50 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.
2. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said end portions and said central portion are integrally formed of said material.
3. The bandage of claim 2, wherein said material comprises a fabric material.
4. The bandage of claim 3, wherein said fabric material is selected from the group consisting of mesh netting, tricot fabric and double needle bar fabric.
5. The bandage of claim 3, wherein the fabric is one of knitted, woven, or molded.
6. The bandage of claim 1, further including release paper elements overlying adhered to said end portions of said strip along said facing surface thereof and selectively peelable therefrom.
7. The bandage of claim 3, wherein said fabric comprises a spacer fabric material.
8. The bandage of claim 7, wherein said spacer fabric material has a porosity of between 50 and 500 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.
9. The bandage of claim 3, wherein said fabric comprises a mesh material.
10. The bandage of claim 9, wherein said mesh material has a porosity of at least 250 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.
11. The bandage of claim 3, wherein said fabric comprises a gauze material.

12. The bandage of claim 11, wherein said gauze material has a porosity of at least 250 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.

13. The bandage of claim 12, wherein said gauze material includes at least two layers of a plurality of transversely extending yarns.

14. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said material is selected from the group consisting of a mesh and a gauze, said material including at least one of a plurality of longitudinally extending yarns, a plurality of transversely extending yarns, and a plurality of diagonally extending yarns.

15. The bandage of claim 8, wherein said spacer material comprises a first yarn layer, a second yarn layer, and a plurality of yarns running therebetween.

16. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said material has a porosity of at least 150 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.

17. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said material has a porosity of at least 250 cubic ft./min./sq. ft.

18. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said material is transversely stretchable and longitudinally stretchable, or both.

19. The bandage of claim 1, wherein said material includes a plurality of transversely extending yarns and a plurality of longitudinally extending yarns.

20. The bandage of claim 9, wherein said mesh material has a fineness of between 15 and 500 denier.